



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

March 21, 2005

**S. 589
Faster FOIA Act of 2005**

As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on March 17, 2005

S. 589 would establish a commission to study ways to reduce delays in processing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. The commission, consisting of 16 members, would have one year to report its findings and recommendations and would terminate 30 days after submitting its final report. Members would serve without pay but would be reimbursed for travel expenses. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) would provide staff for the commission.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the commission would cost about \$1 million, mostly in fiscal year 2006. That estimate assumes that the commission would use approximately 10 GAO employees for about a year. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 589 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, and tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.